

**TOWN OF SOMERS  
BOARD OF FINANCE  
MARCH 23, 2015  
7:00 PM  
LOWER LEVEL CONFERENCE ROOM**

**1. Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Jim Persano.

**2. Members Present**

In attendance were Chairman Jim Persano, Vice Chairman Steve Krasinski, Michael Parker, and Joe Tolisano. Also in the audience were CFO Michael Marinaccio, First Selectman Lisa Pellegrini, and Fire Chief Gary Schiessl.

**3. Selectman's Update**

Lisa Pellegrini informed the Board that the checks for the Ambulance Insurance had been received. The first was for \$199,500 to cover the Ambulance less the deductible. The second was for \$10,217 to cover the ancillary items in the Ambulance that were damaged during the accident.

**4. FY 2016 Budget Discussion and Recommendations**

Lisa Pellegrini began the budget discussions. She informed the Board that the Budget (Town and BOE Total) was up \$678,271 or 2.27%. The Board was told that there is a proposed bill to put 100% of the cost of State Troopers on the Town which would be approximately \$171,000, but the Town did not include that in the annual budget. Also, a paid Fire Chief was not included in the Budget, but after discussion amongst Board member, it was requested to present a new budget with a paid Fire Chief included.

Joe Tolisano asked about the electricity cost because Eversource (formerly CL&P) had issued a rate increase. Mike Marinaccio replied that the Town had entered into a long-term electric generation contract to keep costs down and the Town had also entered into a 1-year contract for both heating oil and diesel fuel to shed additional costs.

Jim Persano asked about the hearing dates since the Board of Education was unable to attend this meeting and a special meeting was scheduled for Monday, March 30, 2015 for the Board of Education presentation.

Mike Marinaccio presented the budget overview and explained that the Town was requesting the use of Fund Balance in the amount of \$524,984 to offset any tax increase. This is equal to approximately 2/3 of a mill. He also informed the Board that the Board of Assessment Appeals numbers had not yet been received, but did not anticipate a major change in the Grand List.

The FY16 Budget does not include LoCIP or TAR Fund Revenues in the General Fund Revenues Budget. LoCIP has a current available balance of \$178,084 with \$87,482 being received on March 1, 2016, giving the Town an available balance during FY16 of \$265,566.

Jim Persano requested that the Recreation Budget be reworked and inserted back into the General Fund Budget. The Budget that was presented did not include Summer Camp Expenses or Revenues, but after discussion, it was requested that the monies be inserted back in to the Budget and presented to the Board on Monday, March 30, 2015.

Mike Marinaccio explained that there is reduction in both Debt Service and in Capital Transfers for FY16. Debt Service is being reduced because there was a premium associated with the new Bond Issuance and it will be used to pay for the Interest on the Bond for the first year. Because of the Insurance check received for the Ambulance accident, the capital fund transfer is lower.

Joe Tolisano asked how the current year budget was performing. Mike Marinaccio replied that the Town is on track.

Other decreases to mention were Employee benefits. Due to a younger workforce and a high funded ratio, the Town's Annual Pension Contribution decreased for Fiscal Year 2016.

Steve Krasinski asked for a debt service spreadsheet for future years payments. Michael Parker also requested a copy. They were told they would be e-mailed to them.

Steve Krasinski asked for the number of Public Works employees. Brian Wissinger replied that there were 13 employees currently working for Public Works.

Kathy Devlin expressed her happiness with the Finance Department and the Budget process to the Board.

#### **5. Budget Flyer, Content Finalization and Approval**

The Budget Approval is pending the changes to Recreation and the presentation of the Board of Education Budget.

#### **6. Approval of Minutes**

Steve Krasinski asked that the original meeting minutes from Monday, February 23, 2015 be presented, unmodified. Approval of these minutes have been deferred to a later meeting.

#### **7. Other Business**

There was no other business discussed.

#### **8. Appropriations and Transfers**

##### **Transfers:**

##### **Department: Registrar of Voters**

##### **Transfer To:**

<b>Account Name</b>	<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Supplies	100-0035-010-0612-5-00	\$300.00

##### **Transfer From:**

<b>Account Name</b>	<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Training	100-0035-010-0322-5-00	\$100.00
Printing	100-0035-010-0551-5-00	\$200.00

**Department: Fire Department/Ambulance**

**Transfer To:**

<b>Account Name</b>	<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Technology Services	100-4124-020-0334-5-00	\$1,000.00
Technology Services	100-2016-020-0334-5-00	\$2,000.00

**Transfer From:**

<b>Account Name</b>	<b>Account Number</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Ambulance Stipend	100-4124-020-0161-5-00	\$1,000.00
Fire Dept. Stipend	100-2016-020-0160-5-01	\$2,000.00

*Joe Tolisano moved to approve the transfers as previously stated, seconded by Michael Parker. A unanimous decision followed.*

**9. Adjournment**

*Joe Tolisano moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm, seconded by Steve Krasinski. A unanimous decision followed.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Wissinger

*MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVAL AT A SUBSEQUENT MEETING*